IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO. to be assigned §

ATTY DOCKET NO. 80337.00010

INVENTOR: Richard L. Watson

EXAMINER: to be assigned

TITLE: PERSONALLY PORTABLE

VACUUM DESICCATOR

GROUP ART UNIT: 3761

FILING DATE: November 17, 2003

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Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION—FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the enclosed application, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/996,970, filed November 20, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 4 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

An Appendix including replacement formal drawings is attached following page 5 of this paper.